



**CITY OF LODI  
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

**AGENDA TITLE:** Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Police and Fire Radio Equipment and Accepting Federal Homeland Security Grant Funds of \$480,151.80

**MEETING DATE:** March 4, 2009

**PREPARED BY:** Michael E. Pretz, Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adopt resolution authorizing the purchase of Police and Fire radio equipment and accepting Federal Homeland Security Grant funds of \$480,151.80.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The federal government is requiring public safety agencies to transition to narrow-band radio frequencies by January 2013. This will require the City to purchase digital radio equipment capable of using the new frequencies. This grant allows the City to purchase communications equipment it otherwise can not afford.

The federal mandate is a result of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, in which public safety agencies discovered the existing, analog radio system is inadequate for dealing with widespread emergencies because of bandwidth limitations. A digital system will provide for interoperable communications, in which members of different public safety agencies can speak to each other on a single radio channel.

The federal government, through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is helping local agencies fund projects to meet this mandate for interoperable communications. In California, the State Office of Homeland Security is responsible for awarding the federal grant funds. The state coordinates distribution of the federal DHS funds at the local level through authorizing authorities that have been established in every county. In San Joaquin County, Fire Chief Mike Pretz and Chief of Police David Main serve on the San Joaquin County State Homeland Security Authorizing Authority, which was established in 2003.

In response to the federal mandate, the City of Lodi developed a radio system upgrade project that was presented to the City Council at an April 22, 2008 shirtsleeve session. As presented, the estimated cost of upgrading the City's public safety radio system is \$1.2 million. The City's radio master plan is patterned after and is an adjunct to San Joaquin County's radio master plan, designed in 2004 to provide interoperable communications between various agencies in the event of an emergency. The City is signatory to the County radio master plan.

The City's radio system upgrade project was accepted by the State Office of Homeland Security and the county's Authorizing Authority. The Authority recently was notified it had nearly \$1.5 million in DHS funds to distribute to agencies for various public safety projects, with 35 percent required to be spent on a combination of training and preparedness planning. Of the remaining \$1 million in grant funds, \$480,151.80 was awarded to the City of Lodi to purchase communications equipment that will begin the Fire Department's migration to narrow-band digital communications, and digitize the Police Department's

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

*Blair King*  
Blair King, City Manager

Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Police and Fire Radio Equipment and Accepting Federal Homeland Security Grant Fund Reimbursement (\$480,151.80)

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Frequency 2. The Police Department's Frequency 1, the channel used for routine communications, already is digitized. An estimated \$772,955.65 in additional funds will be needed before January 2013 to complete the migration to all-digital Fire and Police communications and comply with the federal mandate. Staff is researching additional funding opportunities for future purchases.


Grant funds are received on a reimbursement basis. This will require the City to appropriate the funds, purchase the equipment, and then apply for reimbursement. Because these are federal funds already being held by the State, the reimbursement funds should be immediately available after the purchase.

The \$480,151.80 price is based on the State's purchasing estimate. Communications equipment such as this has a seven- to 10-year lifespan.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The federal mandate will require the City to spend up to \$1.2 million to outfit the Fire and Police departments with an interoperable radio system. Accepting this grant will offset \$480,151.80 of the cost.

**FUNDING AVAILABLE:** Federal Homeland Security Grant Funds (\$480,151.80) as awarded by the San Joaquin County State Homeland Security Authorizing Authority.

  
Jordan Ayers  
Deputy City Manager/Internal Services Director

  
Michael E. Pretz, Fire Chief

MEP/lh

Attachments

cc: City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING  
THE PURCHASE OF POLICE AND FIRE RADIO EQUIPMENT AND  
ACCEPTING FEDERAL HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDS

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WHEREAS, the federal Department of Homeland Security has made funding available for projects designed to support mandates for interoperable communications; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lodi developed a radio system upgrade project that was accepted by the State Office of Homeland Security and the San Joaquin County State Homeland Security Authorizing Authority, a board that oversees Homeland Security grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the equipment purchased with the funds for the radio upgrade project will allow the City of Lodi Fire Department to migrate from a Very High Frequency band to an Ultra High Frequency band and digitize the Police Department's second frequency; and

WHEREAS, communication equipment will be purchased by the City of Lodi; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lodi will receive reimbursement for the radio equipment costs through the California State Office of Homeland Security.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lodi City Council does hereby authorize the purchase of Police and Fire radio equipment and accept Federal Homeland Security grant funds the amount of **\$480,151.80**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council further appropriates **\$480,151.80** for the purchase.

Date: March 4, 2009

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I hereby certify that Resolution No. 2009-24 was passed and adopted by the Lodi City Council in a regular meeting held March 4, 2009, by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – Hitchcock, Johnson, Katzakian, Mounce, and Mayor Hansen

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None



RANDI JOHL

City Clerk